

Appl. No. 10/058266  
Amdt. dated 11/03/2004  
Reply to Office Action of 06/04/2004

**Amendments to the CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-43 (cancelled)

44. (original) A method for representing an eXtensible Markup Language (XML) data structure as a fixed set of tables in a relational database (RDB), the method comprising:

- (a) inputting the XML data structure;
- (b) grouping at least one XML node and possibly any sub-node into a relationship selected from the group consisting of linked list, array of object, and chunk;
- (c) generating a fixed sized table for the grouping in (b);
- (d) if necessary, repeating (b) and (c) and creating references to any repeated groupings (b) and tables (c), until the XML data structure is completed; and
- (e) outputting the resulting fixed sized tables for use in a RDB.